



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg
San Wong, Director

MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSION ON ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS (CAPI)

Date: January 20, 2018

Time: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Metro Waste Authority – Main Office, Des Moines, Iowa
(*conference-call access was provided*)

Commissioners Present:

Ben Jung, Chair – *West Des Moines*

Peggy La – *Sioux City*

James Suong – *Des Moines*

Michelle Yoshimura-Smith – *Des Moines*

Absent:

Karlai Thornburg - *Ames*

Two commission vacancies

DHR/CAS/API Staff:

San Wong, DHR Department Director

Monica Stone, DHR Deputy Director/CAS Division Administrator

Tina Shaw, Executive Officer for Office of Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs

Public Attending: None

I. Call to Order

Jung called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. Commissioners Jung, La, Suong and Yoshimura-Smith present. Thornburg absent. Two vacancies.

II. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Yoshimura-Smith motioned to approve the minutes from the 12/9/17 meeting, as amended. Unanimous consent. Motion adopted.

III. Strategic Planning – Public Policy

Wong noted that while coordination between the Office of Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs is highly encouraged, the Commission is able to have a differentiating agenda. Often, work aligned with the governor's goals and key initiatives have the greatest chance of succeeding because resources, if approved by the legislature, will be assigned to them.

Stone noted that often interest areas will overlap with those of other DHR commissions. Examples include: new voter ID law, Talent Bank and civic engagement. However, gaps do exist, such as voter ID education.

Discussion followed on key areas (in no ranked order, below) for the Commission to begin defining public policy priorities and recommendations to the Governor and elected officials and be the basis of a work plan.

1. Voter Identification – Education Efforts (in high density API counties)
2. 2020 Census – Disaggregated Data for API Community; Improved Survey Response Rate
3. Healthcare – Navigating Medicare, Medicaid and state benefits, access points
4. Naturalization – Citizenship Educational Resources; Targeted ESL and Classes
5. Education and Employment – Vocational & Technical Education
6. Eldercare – Resource Toolkit for Caretakers and Limited English Proficient Asian Seniors

IV. Announcements & Miscellaneous

The annual DHR Day on the Hill will take place on March 7. For CAPI, Chair Ben Jung will make remarks related to civic engagement. A luncheon will be provided for all DHR commissioners.

V. Public Comment & Community Input

None

VI. Next CAPI meeting

The next meeting will take place via conference call in mid to late February (a Tuesday or Wednesday, noon to 1PM) to discuss and refine a draft multi-year CAPI policy plan.

VII. Adjournment

Chair Jung adjourned the meeting at 12:40PM.